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Your attention is invited

**NEWS
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**JOURNAL OF THE ENGINEERING MECHANICS DIVISION
PROCEEDINGS OF THE AMERICAN SOCIETY OF CIVIL ENGINEERS**

DIVISION ACTIVITIES

ENGINEERING MECHANICS DIVISION

Proceedings of the American Society of Civil Engineers

NEWS

January, 1959

NEWS LETTER REVIVED

At the last meeting of the Executive Committee it was decided that the Newsletter should be revived on a publish-when-needed basis. News items are eagerly solicited, but no one should feel a sense of urgency simply to submit enough material to fill pages for a publication dead line. Publication is anticipated twice a year or more if sufficient news of interest is brought to the attention of the Editor.

ANNUAL REPORT

(October 1, 1957 to September 30, 1958)

Activity in the Engineering Mechanics Division during the past year has included some ferment along with the usual operations of an active Technical Division have also taken rather strong stands with regard to several items of Society policy.

The Executive Committee met in New York last October and again in Ann Arbor, Michigan, on April Fool's Day. At the New York meeting, committee appointments were made, and plans were reviewed or made for participation in Society meetings. Ways of stimulating both research and research papers for the Division Journal were discussed. Subsequently, the chairman wrote a letter to all committee members inviting their help in promoting good papers for the Journal. At the request of the Structural Division, we decided to examine ways of coordinating those activities in which the interests of the two Divisions are closely related. To this end, several representatives of both groups held a fruitful discussion at the time of the Chicago meeting on February 25 concerning the planning of joint sessions at New York (October 1958) and Los Angeles (February 1959), and the collaboration of technical committees.

The Chairmen of Technical Committees, except for W. D. Baines and Lynn S. Beedle, met with the Executive Committee in Ann Arbor. We reviewed our

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plans for presenting convention programs and our methods for reviewing papers.

The Division participated lightly in the Chicago meeting in February and heavily in the New York meeting in October. Outside the confines of the Society of Mechanical Engineers in another successful Western Conference on Applied Mechanics in September. We also co-sponsored the Congress on Applied Mechanics at Brown and were well represented on the program, as usual.

The Division was represented at the Technical Procedures conference in Memphis by officers Dan Drucker, Merit White, and John McNown, together with our loyal and helpful contact member from the Board, Robert H. Sherlock. The most important topic was a strong and persuasive plea by A. T. Ippen for more support for and participation in research. Our Division by its very existence is an expression of this need, and we expect to support strongly any activities encouraging research by members of the Society or by the profession of civil engineering. To this end, Robert Hansen and I represented the Division at a Society Conference on Basic Research in Washington during September.

After serving in various capacities almost since the formation of the Division, I look toward my retirement next month with mixed feelings. The work stemming from the many details has been generously offset by the help and the stimulation from the many who have worked so effectively on the tasks which were undertaken. Perhaps our greatest debt, as shown by his report, is to our very capable Secretary, Merit P. White, who has resigned the secretaryship this year to be replaced by Edward Wenk, Jr.

Submitted by
John S. McNown

PUBLICATIONS REPORT

In his report for the Publications Committee, Merit White stated that 82 papers had been submitted to the Division since September, 1955. Of these, 52 had been accepted for publication, 8 rejected, 4 withdrawn by authors, and 18 were in the process of review. The distribution of these papers, according to technical committees handling the reviews, was as follows: Elasticity - 21, Experimental Analysis and Analogs - 4, Fluid Dynamics - 8, Mathematical Methods - 12, Mechanical Properties of Materials - 6, Plasticity - 18, Structural Dynamics - 8, West Coast Committee - 5.

MINUTES OF EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

October 14, 1958

New York City

Attendance: D. C. Drucker (Chairman), D. H. Pletta, B. G. Johnston, E. P. Popov, J. S. McNown, E. Wenk, Jr. (Secretary); Also L. E. Grinter, H. N. Hill, A. G. H. Dietz, J. Waling, D. Frederick, W. J. Austin, E. F. Masur, J. E. Goldberg, H. H. Bleich, J. W. Clark, E. Hognestad, D. L. Dean, W. D. Baines, N. M. Newmark.

Society Research Conference in Washington, D. C.

The EMD was represented by J. McNown and R. Hansen. The objective was to awaken ASCE interest in research. An appointment is to be made of a special assistant at headquarters staff for coordinating ASCE research activity. H. Peckworth mentioned that the staff salary may come from publications budget. The Executive Committee, EMD, wanted to have recorded that "it welcomed recognition of the importance of research activity in ASCE and the appointment of a staff member for research. It hoped, however, that funds to support it would be budgeted without prejudice to publications".

Research Prizes

In the past, EMD has made no recommendations thus penalizing its division membership. The Advisory Board will make recommendations for nominating procedure by next meeting of the Executive Committee, and in the interim, for three candidates.

Future Programs

(Date and Place)

Feb. 9-13, 1959
Los Angeles, Calif.

May 4-8, 1959
Cleveland, Ohio

October 19-23, 1959
Washington, D. C.

Spring - 1960

October, 1960
Boston, Mass.

(EMD Participation)

Five sessions being co-sponsored with Structural Division on theme "Plasticity and Structural Design".

Possibility of two half day sessions, not conflicting with Structural Division, is being investigated by E. Popov.

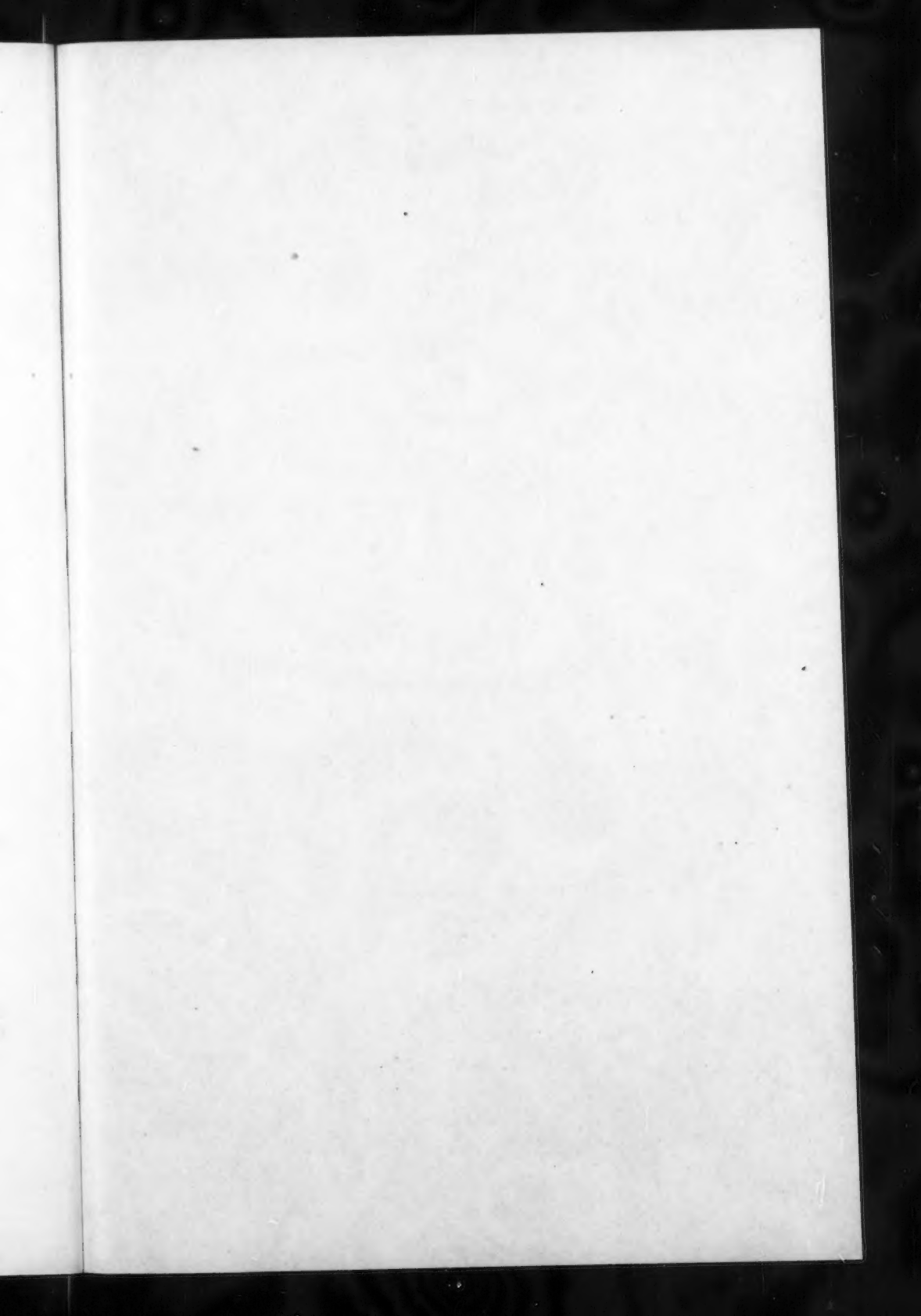
Three sessions being co-sponsored with Structural Division and Column Research Council. Possibly two sessions on "Light-weight structures" to be sponsored solely by EMD; also, one to be prepared by the Experimental Analysis Committee, and two for accumulated EMD papers of unspecified topics.

It was decided that insufficient attendance would bar EMD participation at the 1960 New Orleans and Reno meetings. Instead, B. Johnson will plan special EMD meeting on the theme of "structural mechanics" for 2-3 days at some university, and recommend possibilities at the next Executive Committee meeting.

The general theme of "research" was suggested by the Structural Division; the EMD Research is uncertain as research underlies all of its functions.

Please submit items for the Newsletter to the Editor six weeks prior to Journal publication date.

Donald L. Dean, Newsletter Editor
Department of Civil Engineering
University of Kansas
Lawrence, Kansas



THE UNIVERSITY OF CHICAGO
DIVISION OF THE PHYSICAL SCIENCES
DEPARTMENT OF CHEMISTRY

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